

Town of Albany, Code of Ethics Policy

The Vermont Constitution, of course, applies to every public office. It declares all local, as well as state officials are the trustees and servants of the people, and holds them, at all times, in a legal way, accountable to the people. Vt. Const. c. 1, Art. 7.

Accepting a position as a public official carries with it the acceptance of a public trust that the official will work in the public interest. Maintaining the public trust is critical to the continued operation of good government. No elected or appointed official of the Town, whether or not s/he is compensated for his/her service by the Town, shall directly or indirectly grant or influence the granting of any special consideration, advantage, or favor, which is distinct from that normally accorded to members of the public at large, to any person, group, firm or corporation.

Any profit made while serving, which the town could earn, through the action of an officer, belongs to that town, and not the officer. This does not mean that no one may bid on a town contract, but if a benefit accrued to a public officer on account of his or her position, that benefit belongs to the town.

At a meeting, no elective or appointive officer, acting in an official capacity, or employee of the town, while engaged in his or her duties, shall raise the issue of, place on the agenda, participate in a discussion of, or take part in a discussion concerning any business of the town relating to his/her business or personal financial interests, or those of a spouse, be they direct or indirect, to the degree that said interests exceed those of taxpayers generally.

E. O'Connell

Phyllis

11/21/17

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